

REMARKS

Claims 1-65 and 72-79 are currently pending in this application. Pursuant to the September 5, 2006 Office Action, the prior restriction requirement was reinstated, and claims 6-28, 34-56, 58, 59, 61, and 62 have been withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected Species. Claims 1-5, 29-33, 57, 60, 63-65, and 72-79 are subject to examination. By way of this Reply independent claims 72, 73, 76, and 77 have been amended, without prejudice. No new matter has been introduced into this application by these amendments.

Claim Objections

Claims 72, 73, 75, and 76 have been objected to for informalities. Claims 72, 73, 75, and 76 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, and are believed to be in condition to overcome this objection.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-3, 5, 29-31, 33, 57, and 72-74 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by McCoy (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2002/0084951).¹ Applicants respectfully traverse the foregoing claim rejections for the reasons set forth in detail below.

McCoy discloses a rotating assembly (102) having a plurality of cylindrical lenses (104) circumferentially mounted about the periphery of the rotating assembly (102) and two fixed LED assemblies (106, 108) mounted at the center region of the

rotating assembly (102). See McCoy at Figure 9 and ¶ [0046]. Thus, in McCoy, the LED assemblies (106, 108) are not arranged circumferentially; instead the LED assemblies (106, 108) are mounted at a central region relative to the circumferentially arranged cylindrical lenses (104). Independent claims 1, 29, 57, 63-65, and 72-77 are distinguishable from McCoy because all of these claims specifically recite “an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on a circumference.” Thus, because the LED assemblies (106, 108) of McCoy are not circumferentially arranged, McCoy does not anticipate the invention recited in claims 1, 29, 57, and 72-74 of the present application.

Claims 2-3, 5, 30, 31, and 33 are dependent upon claims 1 and 29, respectively, which Applicant believes are allowable over the cited prior art of record for the same reasons provided above.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Dependent claims 4 and 32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCoy in view of Tiao (U.S. Patent No. 6,227,669). Independent claims 63-65 and 75-77 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCoy in view of Hashimoto (JP Patent No. 06-082909). Dependent claims 60, 78, and 79 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCoy in view of Levis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,829,858).

¹ Please note that there appears to be a typographical error in the second full paragraph of page 7 of the Office Action in which “Kusunose” should state “McCoy.”

McCoy was applied as the primary reference to reject dependent claims 4, 32, 60, 78, and 79. Because independent claims 1, 29, and 57 are distinguishable from McCoy for the reason set forth above, claims 4, 32, 60, 78, and 79, which depend from claims 1, 29, and 57, are distinguishable from McCoy for the same reasons and are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art.

McCoy was also applied as the primary reference to reject independent claims 63-65 and 75-77. The Office Action states that McCoy discloses the claimed invention for the same reasons set forth with respect to independent claims 1, 29, 57, and 72-74. Independent claims 63-65 and 75-77 recite substantially the same limitations discussed above which distinguish independent claims 1, 29, 57, and 72-74 over McCoy, and are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art for the same reasons discussed above.

Conclusion

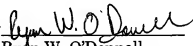
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

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Application No.: 10/689,260

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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